(d) Steps taken to increase production of crude oil are:—

(i) Optimizing production from existing fields through better reservoir management, 3-D seismic surveys, infill drilling, pressure maintenance, installation/optimisation of artificial lift system and use of advanced and cost effective technologies.

(ii) Faster development of new discoveries.

(iii) Finding new hydrocarbon reserves through intensified exploration activities such as—

(a) Exploration of deeper prospects in existing fields.

(b) Extending exploration activities to deep waters and frontier areas.

(iv) Increased private participation in exploration and production activities.

LPG and Petrol Pumps allotted in the Country

1658. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV:
SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies and Petrol pumps allotted during the last five years in the country, Statewise;

(b) the details of the norms of fixing quota for reservation in allotment in this regard;

(c) the district-wise details of the agencies being allotted and targeted to be opened in Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) the details of district-wise advertised places and the places where applicants as per the reserved quota were not available in the State?

THE MINISTER OF SI ATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) Following reservation has been provided for different categories in the allotment of dealerships/distributorships of petroleum products:—

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/SC)	—25%
Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)	—5%
Paramilitary/Police/Government Personnel (PMP)	—8%
Defence Personnel (DC)	-8%
Freedom Fighters (FF)	—2%
Outstanding Sportspersons (OSP)	—2%
Open (0)	—50%

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Also, 33% of the dealerships/distributorships in all the categories mentioned above are reserved for Women belonging to that category.

During the last 5 years, i.e. 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, Oil Companies have allotted 1137 retail outlet dealerships and 970 LPG distributorships all over the country.

Out of the above, 68 RO and 75 LPG distributorships were allotted in Madhya Pradesh. Further Oil Companies have advertised for selection of about 103 retail outlets dealerships and 309 LPG distributorships in Madhya Pradesh.

In respect of 1 retail outlet dealership and 2 LPG distributorships there was no response from the concerned category.

Improving Economic Position of the States

1659. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the states having per capita income above national average and those below the national average during last ten years;

(b) the reasons for constantly low per capita income; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the economic position of these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS